

ated. As much as we dislike these changes, I remind you of our State's proud heritage as a peaceful and law-abiding people. The law must be obeyed.

HIGHER EDUCATION

North Carolina must act now to insure that its every son and daughter with a capacity for college work is given the incentive and the opportunity to attend a college of exceptional quality. This is a goal of my administration.

Our State-supported institutions of higher learning must be expanded physically and academically. I am deeply concerned about the capital improvement needs of our State colleges and the University. This is a matter which deserves your careful consideration, and I expect to speak directly to this problem in my budget message to follow at a later date.

Our facilities for vocational training, our Industrial Education Centers and our Technical Institutes, must continue to expand. Full support must be given to the community college. We must be concerned with and we must give every possible encouragement to the private and church-related institutions that have contributed so much to the well-being of North Carolina.

The University of North Carolina is today and will remain the single most important factor in higher education in our State. I am convinced of the value of the One University concept, and I will vigorously oppose any effort to deprive this State of the positive benefits of consolidation. We must strengthen rather than weaken the total University at Greensboro, at Raleigh and at Chapel Hill. In addition, I strongly recommend that the fourth campus of the University be located at Charlotte as proposed by the University Trustees and approved by the State Board of Higher Education.

I do not believe that the Trustees of the University are properly apportioned at this time. I recommend that the General Assembly appoint a commission to study the role of the Trustees in our University system, the method of their selection and the representation of the various campuses on the Board of Trustees. In view of the campus which I recommend be added at Charlotte, this is the logical time to re-examine and improve our system of Trustees. Meanwhile, when you consider the selection of Trustees at this Session, every effort should be made to equalize representation more fully.

My position on the Speaker Ban Law is well known. As important as this law is and as important as the proposed name change for North Carolina State is, neither issue should be allowed to weaken our Consolidated University. Both should be settled promptly. The welfare of the University should be your overriding concern in approaching these and related matters touching our University system.

According to the State Board of Higher Education, there will be more qualified students applying for admission to institutions of higher learning this year than can be admitted. Some applicants must be turned away because of inadequate facilities. A deepening of this crisis in higher education appears certain to develop in the years immediately ahead. This